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BOOK REVIEWS

TEXTBOOK OF SURGICAL NURSING. By Ralph Colp, A.B., M.D., and Manelva Wylie Keller, B.S., R.N. The Macmillan Company, New York. 453 pages. Price, \$3.00.

This book is one of unusual value. The style is clear and direct and deals with its subjects in a practical manner.

A brief description of the important operative procedures is presented in a lucid way and the reasons for certain precautions so necessary for a proper understanding of the underlying principles, are given. With each operation is given, in addition, a brief mention of typical symptoms, the ante-operative treatment and the post-operative treatment. An interesting chapter is devoted to Surgical Dietetics with some necessary excursions into the adjacent field of medical dietetics as it bears upon surgical cases. Anesthesia comes in for its proper share of attention with admirable emphasis on the preparation of the mind of the patient for anesthesia and the important role the nurse may play in this aspect of her patient's treatment and welfare.

Other chapters are devoted to the Arrangement, Organization, and Equipment of an Operating Theatre, its Personnel, and the personal qualifications necessary for a successful operating nurse. These embrace all the virtues of mind and body, not forgetting a great forbearance with the vagaries of the nervous and overcharged surgeon. The descriptions of the equipment are very full and should be an excellent guide for those engaged in purchasing supplies for operating departments. Cuts, many and excellent, illustrate the various positions and the draping of patients, so that those a little hazy on such procedures, may quickly clarify their mental atmosphere and proceed confidently to act in a given case. The Dressing of Wounds, and a very full chapter on the preparation, use and application of the Carroll-Dakin Treatment, furnish a comprehensive and valuable addition to the book.

The closing chapter is devoted to Operations in the Home and with this material at hand the young nurse with little preparation but that obtained in a well-equipped operating room need not feel helpless in the face of her first experience in applying her knowledge of surgical technique, particularly with the aid of some improvised methods of supplying the usual equipment to this particular set of circumstances. On the whole the book seems to furnish practical, comprehensive material for the equipment of a nurse whether she be

a student, one just entering upon the practice of her profession, or one anxious to keep abreast of the changing times.

AMY P. MILLER, R.N., *Princeton, N. J.*

FIRST YEAR NURSING. Third Edition. By Minnie Goodnow, R.N. 358 pages. Illustrated. W. B. Saunders and Company, Philadelphia and London. Price, \$2.25 net.

Since the first edition of this well known text-book, so great an advance in the study of nursing has been made that it has become imperative in the interest of both nursing instructors and students in training, that this, a revised edition, be issued in which are incorporated the latest facts relative to practical nursing.

This book emphasizes the importance of Ethics, the Care of Beds and Bed-making, the Classification of Diets and the Serving of Meals, Systematic Ward Duties, Baths and Hydro-therapy, the Comfort of Patients, Enemata and the various kinds of Douches; Examinations and Ward Dressings; External Applications; Temperature, Pulse and Respiration; Medicines; the Observation of Symptoms; the Nursing Care and Treatment of Medical and Surgical, Ear, Nose and Throat Cases. Valuable information is conveyed to the young nurse in the care and nursing of Gynecological and Obstetrical Cases, together with useful advice in the care of babies. Attention is called to Operative Technique and Bandaging, thus enabling the nurse to realize the great importance of this branch of nursing. The introduction of Occupational Therapy and the use of this curative agent is also dealt with. The fundamental principles of nursing are defined and the individual subjects demonstrated and detailed systematically and placed before the nurse with unusual lucidity.

The useful information given throughout the book is reinforced by review questions at the conclusion of every chapter by which the knowledge gained during the study of the book can be thoroughly tested.

The use and study of this nursing book is recommended to all instructors and teachers as it presents in each chapter a full and complete lecture on the subject mentioned in a clear and concise manner, such as will arouse the interest of all student nurses.

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BOOKS RECEIVED

MANAGEMENT OF THE SICK INFANT. By Langley Porter, B.S., M.D., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), and William E. Carter, M.D. C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis. Price, \$7.50.